

CLAIMS

1. [Amended] An endoscopic camera comprising:

a body;

a rocker switch comprising a rocker having a front end and a rear end, and pivotably attached to said body about a pivot axis at a point intermediate said front and rear ends;

a spring interposed between each of said front and rear ends and said body, each spring to bias said rocker in a direction opposite the other spring means in order to bias said rocker toward a neutral position;

at least one magnet situated on said rocker adjacent one of said ends, said magnet movable within a predetermined range as said rocker is pivoted about said pivot axis;

at least one Hall effect sensor situated in said body and associated with each said magnet, said Hall effect sensor and said associated magnet spaced from each other a predetermined distance when said rocker is in said neutral position;

whereby pivoting motion of said rocker switch will alter[ing] the distance between said magnet and said Hall effect sensor for controlling a plurality of operations of the endoscopic camera.

2. The endoscopic camera of claim 1 wherein:

said rocker switch facilitates a first function of the endoscopic camera when the distance between said Hall effect sensor and said magnet is decreased and a second function of the endoscopic camera when said distance between said Hall effect sensor and said magnet is increased.

3. [Cancelled]

4. [Cancelled]
5. [Cancelled]
6. [Cancelled]
7. [Cancelled]
8. [Amended} The endoscopic camera of claim [7] 1 wherein:
said spring[s] comprises a dome spring[s].
9. [Cancelled}
10. [Cancelled]
11. [Cancelled]
12. [Cancelled]
13. [Cancelled]
14. The endoscopic camera of claim 1 wherein:
said at least one Hall effect sensor comprises a plurality of Hall effect
sensors;
said at least one magnet comprises a plurality of magnets; and
wherein rocking said rocker switch brings different pairs of Hall effect
sensors and magnets closer together.
15. [Amended] The endoscopic camera of claim 14 wherein:
said rocker switch further comprises a neutral position where the distance
between associated pairs of Hall effect sensors and magnets are substantially equal.
16. The endoscopic camera of claim 15 wherein:
said rocker switch is biased toward said neutral position.
17. [Amended} The endoscopic camera of claim 14 wherein:

placement of a different pair[s] of said magnets and Hall sensors in closer proximity controls an independent function of the endoscope.

18. [Cancelled]

19. [Cancelled]

20. [Cancelled]